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Attorneys and Counselors at Law,
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THE COMMONWEALTH.

Correspondence of the Chicago Weekly Press.
London—A glance at the great Metropolis.

The Houses of Parliament are a short distance from the Queen's Palace on the Thames. This is the largest model of Gothic architecture in Europe, and one of the finest buildings in the world. It was commenced about twenty years ago, and will be finished in about ten years, at a cost of £12,000,000. Two towers are being built at each end, which will attain the height of three hundred and thirty and three hundred and forty feet. The number of statues about the building in honor of distinguished Englishmen, will be more than four hundred and fifty.

Westminster Abbey was rebuilt, nearly as we now see it, by Henry III., and his son Edward I., about the year 1230, and has been the place of coronation of the sovereign from the time of Edward the Confessor to Victoria. Several chapels have been added from time to time by the kings whose remains are there entombed. "Here rests England's most glorious one, the founders of her national fabric, and the framers of her language."

The visitor may spend a day most agreeably in reading the curious inscriptions in "Poet's Corner," and upon the monuments and tablets in other parts of the Abbey, and will find it difficult to avoid losing himself amidst the almost labyrinthine windings. On the Sabbath that I attended services in the Abbey, there were assemblies of about 2,500 persons, more than half of whom could not hear a word that the minister uttered.

But when the organ sent forth its thundering notes, accompanied by a choir of youthful voices,

the loud-sounding harmony, rolling on before the distance—produced an impression which the most eloquent sermon would have failed to do.

St. Paul's Cathedral is next to Westminster Abbey with regard to antiquity, and far superior in style of architecture. It was built in Queen Anne's reign by Christopher Wren, England's greatest architect. It is situated in the centre of the business quarter, at the foot of Fleet street. I ascended to the height of four hundred feet above the pavement, under the hall and cross that surrounds the dome. The Whispering Galley, in the dome, is so constructed, that you may hear the slightest whisper in any part of the gallery. The workmen below were making preparations for the charity school's anniversary, and even while their hammers kept an almost deafening racket, I listened to the history of the cathedral, delivered by my guide opposite me, in a whisper. The monuments and groups of statuary placed here by Government, in honor of Englishmen who flourished during the last century, are new, and many of them well executed. Wellington and Nelson are buried in the vault under the dome.

The Tower of London is situated on the North bank of the Thames in the Eastern part of the city. The oldest building now standing (the White Tower) was built about the year 1066, by William the Conqueror. In view of its antiquity, of the many tragedies that have been enacted within its walls, and of the conspicuous place it occupied in English History as the strongest fortification in England in former times, the tower affords the greater of interest. The ancient moat, about one hundred feet in breadth, still surrounds the walls, and is used for a parade ground by the soldiers stationed in the barracks within.

The entrance, after passing an iron gate and crossing the moat, is an archway near the Bloody Tower, where the Duke of Clarence was drowned in a "butt of malice," and the young princes were smothered by order of Richard III. Opposite is the "Traitor's Gate," by which those who were guilty of high treason were conducted from the river. The oldest buildings are apparently in a state of perfect preservation as those which have since been constructed.

Most of the curiosities are kept in the "White Tower" (so called on account of its light color), which stands in the centre. Some parts of its walls are thirteen feet thick. Before windows came to use, two or three small loopholes conducted to the inmates their portion of light and air. Sir Walter Raleigh was confined in this prison many years. The dungeon in which he was chained at night is about six feet in length by four in breadth, and scarcely high enough to permit a full-grown man to stand upright. The armor contains nearly forty equestrian and pedestrials figures, showing the different kinds of armor and arms in use from the time of Edward I. to James II.; wax figures of Queen Elizabeth on horseback; block on which Anne Boleyn and Lady Jane Grey were beheaded; instruments of torture and arms used by the early Britons, and many other people with whom the English have been connected. There are, besides, seven other towers, to which I was not admitted; a small Norman chapel; barracks built by Wellington; and the jewel-house, in which are kept the gewgaws of royalty that have drawn from English purses £17,000,000.

The Thames tunnel may perhaps be considered as one of the most wonderful objects in London. It is built under the bed of the river, two miles below London Bridge. Its length, two hundred feet. Operations were commenced in 1825, after a plan of Sir Isambard K. Brunel, and after many difficulties, and a delay of seven years, caused by a break in the shield which protected the workmen, filling the portion already completed with water, the work was finally opened to the public in 1845. The architect is said to have devised the idea of the shield from the operations of the teredo, a testaceous animal which eats its way through the hardest boards, protected by a cylindrical shell.

Brunel's shell consisted of twelve separate parts or divisions, each containing three cells. In these cells the workmen worked, protected by the shield above and in front, and backed by the brick layers behind, who built up as fast as the miners advanced. The total cost was nearly £2,000,000. The yearly receipts amount to £25,000, a sum barely sufficient to cover the necessary expenditures, from the constant influx of land springs. It belongs to a public company, called the Thames Tunnel Company. The ascent and descent are by cylindrical shafts, of one hundred steps each, and the toll for foot passengers is one penny for each passenger. It has not been rendered accessible for vehicles of any sort, owing to the great cost of completing the approaches.

MAMMOTH TREES IN CALIFORNIA.—A correspondent of the San Francisco Bulletin, who has visited the famous big trees in Calveras county, makes the following mention of some of them:

"There lies 'The father of the Forest,' the greatest of the ninety two giants. Though long since fallen, it is the wonder of every beholder. From the nearest calculation this monster is 112 feet in circumference, and according to its size and the usual proportion of trees, it must have been over four hundred feet high! After going some distance up the trunk, we climbed through a knot hole at one side, and ascending a ladder to the top, walked over two hundred feet along its trunk towards the roots. Not far from this, one of our party rode through one of the fallen trees on horse back."

AMERICAN SENTIMENTS OF AN AMERICAN STATESMAN.—The following extract from a letter from Mr. Clay to a gentleman in New York, dated Nov. 5th, 1844, present briefly and clearly that eminent Statesman's sentiments in relation to foreign political influence and naturalization:

"I am afraid that all foreigners who come to this country do not sufficiently appreciate the blessings which it offers, and that they sometimes act with indiscretion. For one, I must say, that when I hope the United States may always remain an asylum to the unfortunate, the oppressed, and the persecuted of other climes, I hope that it will ever be governed by true and genuine AMERICAN feelings, sentiments and interest."

A Yankee who had just come from Florence, being asked what he had seen and admired, and whether he was not in raptures with the statue of Venus, replied: "Well, I tell the truth, I don't care much about these stone gals."

If an engine, going sixty miles an hour, could be run up an angle of forty five degrees for a lawyer for contempt of Court. "I have express ed no contempt for the Court," said the lawyer; "on the contrary, I have carefully concealed my feelings."

From the New York Journal of Commerce.
The Modern Statesman.

In a Republic like ours, where the idea of rank is of so little account, and character weighs so much, the man who rises to the true dignity of a statesman, has achieved that which renders him truly worthy of the designation Honorable. So much depends upon us on the suffrages of the people, that the temptation is strong to play the part of a mere politician. To be such requires no profound study of civic economy, or the philosophy of States. Certain small arts are sufficient, and the least worthy sometimes attain great success. They may not enjoy the respect of the virtuous, but they have compassed their object, and can dispense with merit, which a real statesman highly prizes. It is perhaps absurd to adopt the Webster maxim that "every man has his price," but that money has been often used to promote the election of candidates, not to be denied! That it has been used by persons in high places, there is too much reason to fear. That the giving or receiving pecuniary considerations, has a corrupting tendency, needs no proof. We do not intimate that the mass of the people are not politically pure. We have confidence in their integrity and intelligence. But how long they shall remain so, depends on the examples set by those who lead and control public opinion. Thoughtful eyes are upon the conduct of public men, there may be a great deal of private intrigue, and virtual bribery, which is never spread before the public.

In our Presidential elections, especially, we fear that bad influences have been exerted in an augmented ratio, and that no party can plead guiltless in this matter. The grand object of each is to carry its candidate into power by all means; and some of the means are used with little scrupulousness. Among these is a system of column and detraction, which to foreigners appears little less than madness. Were they to form their opinions of our candidates from the descriptions of the political press, they would infer, that whenever party succeeded, we should have a graceless if not a worthless demagogue to lead our councils and administer the government—Such licentiousness would soon wear out our reputation, and greatly depress us in the eyes of the world. Another fatal consequence will be, that the truly worthy, the real statesman, will retire from the arena, where so much mud is thrown up, without the accompaniment of an honorable and generous conflict.

We cannot spare the good and high minded statesmen, of whom we would form such an ideal as this:

"He should be a student of the philosophy of government, in its broadest and most dignified aspect. He should understand the origin, the history, the policy, the true end of the government under which he lives. He should comprehend the spirit of the Constitution, as well as its letter. He should be a student of the writings of the political fathers. They were men of strength, dignity, and perspicuity. Their vision looked far down the line of time to distant posterity."

The stamp of their wisdom is still visible upon our institutions. In proportion as we have ignored that wisdom, we have plunged into difficulties. The true statesman will seek to bring us back to first principles, and to the study of the revolutionary period.

He should be a sincere and devoted lover of the Union. Disunited, we are but a reproach and a by-word. Sectionalism is of all things most to be avoided. They who thrive by fomenting internal strife, render themselves utterly unworthy the name and the privileges of citizens. Those statesmen who have been the most zealous, the most constant advocates of Union, have won the most brilliant fame from an enthusiastic people. It is upon their tombs that the Muse of history delights to hang her perennial wreath. From that tomb they speak with more than mortal eloquence. Their august shades rebuke the flippancy of modern disunionists.

He should be a man of great thoughts—Then will he disdain the tricks of small politicians. Then will he use no patry arts for the aggrandizement of himself. He will contemplate his whole country—he impressed with the moral grandeur of her position and prospects—be charmed with her wisely restrained liberties—help her to promote justice with all nations—strive rather to consolidate and strengthen, than further to extenuate her immense possessions.

He should be cool, logical and able to generalize the vast details continually developed in the progress of our unprecedent prosperity—Such an one would command the reverence and admiration of the Senate and the popular assembly. Nor, finally should he be ashamed, to confess his dependence on a Superior Power that rules amid the nations. The statesman never appears with greater dignity in whom he so nobly appeals to the protection of Almighty God, and invokes the guidance and guardianship of his Spirit in the performance of great and responsible duties.

Sublimely Eloquent.

In the new book of Dr. Ross, entitled "Slavery Ordained by God," which contains all his letters and speeches on the slavery question, we find the following beautiful piece of imagery:

"The family through whose successive bereavements had become reduced to but three persons, Jones, his mother in law, Mrs. Grubb, and her only remaining daughter. The latter was married in a private manner, about a month ago, to Jones, the husband of her deceased sister. Until quite recently no one but the mother and aunt of the bride, except the officiating clergyman, were informed of the circumstance. On Tuesday last the singular coincidence mortally was increased by the death of Mrs. Grubb, after but a few hours' illness. Mrs. G., like the rest of the family, had enjoyed almost uninterrupted good health, and the suddenness of her decease, following that of her relatives, so painfully impressed those cognizant of the affair that an investigation was commenced, and the stomach of the last deceased was found to be full of arsenic.

Dr. Ross, as far as I can learn, is a man of great worth and ability.

Runaway Committed.

HARLAN COURT HOUSE, Nov. 1st, 1857.—
THERE WAS committed to the jail of Harlan County, Ky., on the 4th inst., ALLEN TURNER, 18, about a week after his escape, from the State Penitentiary at Louisville, for the offense of breaking and entering into a house and committing robbery, and for the offense of being a fugitive slave.

The country was in a most distracted condition.

Another general revolution was impending—Negotiations were pending between the revolutionists and Santa Anna, whom they undoubtedly intend to make President.

The Tennessee brings 23 political exiles,

among whom are ex Presidents Sul. Jose Washington, Col. Romer Wm. Moran, editor of the Extraordinary, who was imprisoned for issuing a publication against the Governor of Zacatecas.

Concord's fall is considered as certain, and it is thought doubtful if his life will be spared if he remains to the grave soon afterward.

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Concord's fall is considered as certain, and it is thought doubtful if his life will be spared if he remains to the grave soon afterward.

The family through whose successive bereavements had become reduced to but three persons, Jones, his mother in law, Mrs. Grubb, and her only remaining daughter. The latter was married in a private manner, about a month ago, to Jones, the husband of her deceased sister. Until quite recently no one but the mother and aunt of the bride, except the officiating clergyman, were informed of the circumstance. On Tuesday last the singular coincidence mortally was increased by the death of Mrs. Grubb, after but a few hours' illness. Mrs. G., like the rest of the family, had enjoyed almost uninterrupted good health, and the suddenness of her decease, following that of her relatives, so painfully impressed those cognizant of the affair that an investigation was commenced, and the stomach of the last deceased was found to be full of arsenic.

Dr. Ross, as far as I can learn, is a man of great worth and ability.

Runaway Committed.

HARLAN COURT HOUSE, Nov. 1st, 1857.—
THERE WAS committed to the jail of Harlan County, Ky., on the 4th inst., ALLEN TURNER, 18, about a week after his escape, from the State Penitentiary at Louisville, for the offense of breaking and entering into a house and committing robbery, and for the offense of being a fugitive slave.

The country was in a most distracted condition.

Another general revolution was impending—Negotiations were pending between the revolutionists and Santa Anna, whom they undoubtedly intend to make President.

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